



## Cloud Cover Procedures

### Note:

If you are a GLOBE School you may want to use the GLOBE Cloud Protocols (pdf) and GLOBE Atmosphere Investigation Integrated 1-Day Data Sheet (pdf). Even if you are not a GLOBE school the Cloud Protocols document provides excellent background information to understand the importance of clouds in weather measurements.

If you are a participant in the S'Cool program, you may use S'Cool procedures. Your teacher will tell you what procedures to use.

**Purpose:** You will record cloud type and cloud cover at least once a day and at intervals during the day. Maintaining an accurate record of the Cloud cover and type during the day will allow you to compare any variations with other weather measurements and with events like snowstorms and the formation of particular snowflake types. Changes in cloud type and cloud cover often signals changing weather.

**Materials:** A cloud type chart may be helpful to accurately identify the types of clouds. A chart can be downloaded from the Weather Watch page, or you may use the S'Cool On-Line Cloud Chart.

### Procedure:

1. All weather data should be recorded at the same time at least once every day. It is ideal to record weather data about every hour – and more frequently during snowstorms.
2. Record the time and date on the Weather Watch Field Data Sheet.
3. Estimate the percent of the sky covered by clouds and record on Weather Watch Field Data Sheet.
4. Identify the clouds types and record on Weather Watch Field Data Sheet
5. If your school is a registered Winter's Story Weather Station, return to the classroom and submit Weather Watch data to your site.